

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/077,637

Examiner

Eric Hug

Applicant(s)

ZILKER, GREGORY D.

Art Unit

1731

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the amendment filed on May 27, 2003.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-17.
3. ☐ The drawings filed on _____ are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * Certified copies not received: _____.
5. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
 - (a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
6. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application. **THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

7. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
8. ☒ CORRECTED DRAWINGS must be submitted.
 - (a) ☒ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☒ to Paper No. 5.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the proposed drawing correction filed _____, which has been approved by the Examiner.
 - (c) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No. _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet.

9. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3 <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 4 <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No. _____. |
| 5 <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449), Paper No. _____. | 6 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 7 <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material | 8 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9 <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____. |

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Ronald Santucci on July 16, 2003.

The application has been amended as follows:

In the Claims:

6. (Amended) The fabric in accordance with claim 4 3, wherein the pattern on the top surface is not aligned with the pattern on the bottom surface.

15. (Amended) A fabric for use in papermaking comprising:

a woven body having respective edge portions on opposite sides of the body;

said body and edge portions having a top surface and a bottom surface;

respective transition points which are subject to flexure between said respective edge portions and said body;

reinforcing coating on said ~~either top or~~ and bottom ~~surface~~ surfaces; and

said coating extends ~~respectively from both~~ from at least one said edge ~~portions~~ portion over said transition points and onto a portion of the body ~~and is located at said top surface and said bottom surface~~; and

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wherein said coating on said body is in a pattern which extends onto a portion of the body at varying distances from the transition point and terminates in the shape of curves, semi-circles or other projections.

16. (Amended) The fabric in accordance with claim ~~13~~ 14, wherein the pattern on the top surface is not aligned with the pattern on the bottom surface.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1-17 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The prior art does not disclose or suggest a papermaking fabric having coated edges whereby the coating extends beyond the transition (flexure) point onto the body of the fabric at varying distances from the transition point, resulting in a non-linear shape along the length of the fabric where the coating terminates. Similarly, the prior art does not disclose or suggest such a papermaking fabric having the coating terminate in the shape of curves, semi-circles, or other projections from the edge and into the body of the fabric. Prior art fabrics having coated protected or reinforced edges are made with the coating formed as a strip and aligned parallel with a longitudinal edge of the fabric, or with the coating extended beyond the transition point and terminating in the body of the fabric at constant distance from the edge along the length of the fabric (e.g. Tate). The present invention provides for reinforcement and resistance to flexure along the edge of the fabric in all directions.

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Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Drawings

The corrected or substitute drawings for Figures 1 and 3 were received on May 27, 2003. These drawings are accepted.

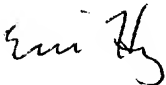
The drawings for Figures 2 and 4 filed on February 15, 2002 are acceptable subject to correction of the informalities indicated on the attached "Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review," PTO-948, Paper No. 5, mailed February 21, 2003. In order to avoid abandonment of this application, correction is required in reply to the Office action. The correction will not be held in abeyance.

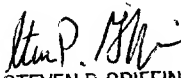
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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Eric Hug whose telephone number is 703 308-1980. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday, 9:00 AM to 6:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Steven Griffin can be reached on 703 308-1164. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703 872-9310 for regular communications and 703 872-9311 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703 308-0651.


jeh
July 17, 2003


STEVEN P. GRIFFIN
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 1700